

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DOTE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

UNCLAS CARACAS 8130

RIO FOR FAA IFO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR BEXP VE

SUBJ: IMPORT DUTIES FOR AIRCRAFT

REF: CARACAS 7825

1. DURING A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AIRLINES, AERoclUBS, AIRCRAFT DEALERS AND GENERAL AVIATION COMPANIES, THE MINISTER OF FINANCE EXPLAINED THAT HIS MINISTRY INTENDS TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS TO THE RECENT RESOLUTION BY WHICH IMPORT DUTIES ON AIRCRAFT WERE INCREASED FROM 1 PERCENT TO 70 PERCENT AD VALOREM. HE REITERATED THAT IT IS THE INTENT OF THE MEASURE TO LIMIT THE SUPERFLUOUS AND EXTRAVAGANT PURCHASE OF AIRCRAFT. HE SAID VARYING SCALES OF DUTY EXONERATIONS WILL BE SET UP ACCORDING TO THE INTENDED USE OF THE AIRCRAFT.

2. SUCH A MEASURE MIGHT GIVE THE GOV A MEANS FINALLY TO CONTROL THE MIS-REGISTRATION OF AIRCRAFT. ACCORDING TO THE VENEZUELAN CIVIL AVAITION LAW, AIRCRAFT FOR PURE PLEASURE OR SPORTS USE ARE GIVEN THE T REGISTRATION (TOURISM) AND PAY NO LANDING FEES, WHILE THOSE USED FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES ARE GIVEN A (PRIVATE) LETTER AND ARE CHARGED LANDING FEES. OTHER LETTERS ARE GIVEN FOR COMMERCIAL (C) AND SPECIAL (E) APPLICATION, SUCH AS FOR
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AIRLINES AND TAXIS AND FOR CROP DUSTERS, RESPECTIVELY.

3. WHILE THE AEROCLUB MEMBERS HAVE ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT THEIR AIRCRAFT ARE TRUE PLEASURE AIRCRAFT, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN BUT DIFFICULT TO CONTROL THAT BY FAR THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE WAS ACTUALLY USED FOR VARIOUS BUSINESS PURPOSES OR AS EXECUTIVE AIRCRAFT. NOW, HOWEVER, THE AEROCLUBS ADMIT THAT MOST OF THEIR MEMBERS NEED THEIR AIRCRAFT FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES.

4. IT IS THUS POSSIBLE THAT THE HIGH DUTIES WILL NOT GREATLY CUT DOWN ON THE VOLUME OF AIRCRAFT SALES. PROSPECTIVE BUYERS WILL HAVE TO STATE THE PURPOSE TO WHICH THEY WILL PUT THE AIRCRAFT IN ORDER TO APPLY FOR EXONERATION BUT WILL THEN HAVE TO APPLY FOR THE P OR EVEN C LICENSE AND PAY LANDING FEES. SHLAUDEMANN

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